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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/633,757

08/04/2003

Johannes Ilg

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08/07/2006

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
PATENT DEPARTMENT
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EXAMINER

JACKSON, STEPHEN W

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2836

DATE MAILED: 08/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Plunkett (4,093,900).

Plunkett teaches a system that switches in a number of fixed value loads (braking resistors) in response to measured voltage conditions. Elements 12 and 34 are part of a “potential converter”/control unit combination, with 52,54,56 understood to be the switching units recited in the claims. The control circuit monitors the voltage and adds or removes loads as needed to prevent overvoltages and produce the desired dynamic braking in a vehicle system (see abstract).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-10,12 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The above mentioned dependent claims add limitations that relate to one of the switched loads being a mode change in the system control unit. The prior art of record

Art Unit: 2836

does not teach or fairly suggest the use of the control unit as one of the loads to be switched in response to an overvoltage.

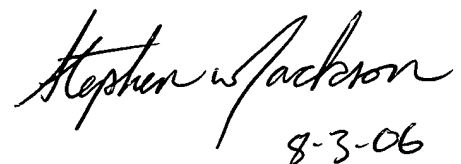
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen W. Jackson whose telephone number is 571-272-2051. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30am-3:00pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on 571-272-2800 x36. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SWJackson

August 3, 2006

Handwritten signature of Stephen W. Jackson in cursive script, with the date "8-3-06" written below it.

STEPHEN W. JACKSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER